

# Ripped from the ROUNDUP

*Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:*

1965

Vice President Hubert Humphrey was in Houston for a quick tour of the Manned Spacecraft Center July 13 and was briefed on the current manned space programs.

The Vice President took a “ride” in the Gemini docking trainer with astronaut Walter M. Schirra and then he and his party observed a simulated Gemini liftoff at the Mission Control Center and a portion of a mission.

While at the Center, the Vice President greeted and shook hands with many of the people as he made the rounds during the tour of the facility.

1980

Another step toward the first launch of the space shuttle was taken this month with the successful completion of an Orbiter Integrated Test.

The test at Kennedy Space Center, which began on July 7 and was completed on July 14, was designed to check the way in which various systems on board *Columbia* operate together with computers, avionics, and ground systems. Principal among the systems being tested were the Orbiter’s secondary propulsion system – the Orbital Maneuvering System – and its Reaction Control System, which will be used for attitude control.

1985

A manned mission to Mars in the next century could “redirect creative human brains from the prospects of dealing with armed conflict to the prospects of planning and carrying out a peaceful ...program of unprecedented scope and magnitude,” NASA Administrator James. M. Beggs said July 16.

Speaking at a panel discussion, “Humans to Mars – Why?” at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, Beggs predicted that “we could be en route to Mars before the middle of the next century.”

By that time, he said, “using as our springboard the space station and its infrastructure, we may very well have established a human presence at a lunar base. Mars would be the next logical niche for human expansion in the universe.”



# Bring Our Children to Work 2000

By Eric Raub

Hundreds of children and their parents spent the day at Johnson Space Center on June 9 for Bring Our Children to Work 2000. Students and parents attended BOCTW, which was held in the Gilruth Center ballroom and gymnasium where two concurrent presentations were held.

There were two identical sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, to accommodate those registered to attend. The audience viewed one presentation first, then rotated to the other shortly afterwards which kept the presentations fresh and interesting for both the children and their parents.

In the Alamo Ballroom, the children, ages 9-15, and their parents were treated to a slide-show presentation with mounds of information on microbes, Martian meteorites, and the Red Planet itself. Before the presentation, the children were given plastic bags with a small amount of Martian soil simulant. Many were disappointed to find out that it was not real Martian dirt. However, that did not stop almost all of the children, and many adults, from taking little bags of volcanic ash home with them. The children were instructed to draw what they thought was the most common form of life on the planet on a card they were given. Answers were

almost as diverse as the real spectrum of life. Of course, they were quickly told that the real answer was microbes and were then told all about their world and the possible life that may have been on Mars. They then learned about how we may one day be able to visit Mars in the future and were encouraged to try and participate in the effort. The presentation ran four times and was given by Kathie Thomas-Keptra, Everett Gibson, Simon Clemett, and Carlton Allen. Jackie Allen led in the design of the presentation.

In the gymnasium, a spacesuit demonstration was held. First the audience watched a video on spacesuits and the possible models that could be used on Mars. Then they saw the real thing in action. In the morning, a launch and entry suit was modeled by Sabrina Singh, who was joined by Peggy Halford and Jean Alexander. At both sessions, Jason Poffenberger, a JSC employee, greeted the audience wearing the necessary undergarments for the extravehicular suit and before long was suited up, pressurized, and independently mobile. He demonstrated the range and limitations of mobility of the current spacesuit as well as some of the equipment and features. Fortunately for the children, he walked right in front of them, encouraging them to feel the suit’s material and pressure. Toward the end of the presentation, the

crew turned an infrared camera on Poffenberger to show how they could monitor where the areas of highest temperature were in the suit. Before Poffenberger shed the almost 200 pounds of equipment, he could not resist the opportunity to try to shoot a few baskets into the overhanging basketball goal to cheers from the audience – he actually succeeded in one of his shots.

Tom Etheridge, Rook Dailey, Gary Chilson, and Karl Hamelmann provided engineering knowledge and technical support for the suit. The presenters were Amy Ross and Timothy Brady, with an introduction provided by Gretchen Thomas. They were joined by John Sanders who led the effort in preparing the demonstration.

“It’s important that children are exposed to some of the projects here at JSC,” said Jessie Hendrick, Federal Women’s Program manager for the Equal Opportunity Programs Office. “It gives them an excellent opportunity to learn about the working environment and the wide range of fun and interesting careers here at JSC.”

As the audience left the final presentation of the session for them, the children were treated to NASA bags that contained items donated by JSC, Cimarron, Averstar, Boeing, Hamilton Sundstrand, United Space Alliance, Boeing, and Honeywell. ■

# GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

Sign up policy:

All classes and athletic activities are on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, cash or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For more information, call x33345

Gilruth badges:

Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$12. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Open from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Contact the Gilruth Center at (281) 483-3345. <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Nutrition intervention program:

Six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietitian and blood analysis to chart your progress. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For details call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

Defensive driving:

One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club:

Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety:

Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$105. The cost for additional family members is \$58.

Exercise:

Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Step/bench aerobics:

Low-impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:25-6:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks. Kristen Taraszewski, instructor.

Yoga stretching:

Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format. Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing:

Classes meet Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for beginner, 8:30-9:30 p.m. for intermediate and 7:30-8:30 p.m. for advanced. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing:

Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.

Fitness program:

Health-related fitness program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For more information call Larry Wier at x30301.

Aikido:

Martial arts class for men and women meets 5-6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. No special equipment or knowledge is needed to participate. Aikido teaches balance and control to defend against an opponent without using strength or force. Beginning and advanced classes start each month. Cost is \$35 per month.

# TICKET WINDOW

The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

General Cinema Theaters	.....	\$5.50		
Sony Loew's Theaters	.....	\$5.50		
AMC Theaters	.....	\$5.00		
Fiesta Texas	.....adult ..	\$20.50. . .child (under 48 inches) ..	\$17.25	
Astroworld	.....1 day ..	\$21.00	.....2 day ...	\$31.00
WaterWorld	.....	\$12.00		
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)	.....	\$10.75		
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)	.....	\$9.25		
Sea World	.....adult ..	\$29.00	.....child (3-11 years) ...	\$19.25
Schlitterbahn	.....adult ..	\$21.50	.....child (3-11 years) ...	\$18.00
Space Center Houston	.....adult ..	\$11.00	.....child (age 4-11) ....	\$7.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)				
Space Center Houston annual pass	.....	\$18.75		
Splash Town	.....1 day ..	\$13.00	.....Season Pass ...	\$37.50
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	.....	\$6.60		

Exchange Store hours

Monday-Friday  
Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

➤ All tickets are nonrefundable.

➤ Metro tokens and value cards are available.

For additional information, please call x35350.

Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.

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